Commercial Borrowings and Domestic Borrowings for implementation of Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project for which the average interest rate on the loans utilized works out to about 8% per annum.

The tariff for NTPC stations including Kayamkulam is determined by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).

Under the existing dispensation 16 per cent post tax return on equity is allowed with actual tax liability being borne by the consumers.

Prior to 31.03.2001, the incidence of tax liability after taking into account rebate, tax holiday etc. under the Income Tax Act was being computed for entire company and was being allocated to the respective power stations in proportion to the operating capacity. Subsequently, CERC vide its notification during 2001 have issued tariff norms to be applicable for tariff period from April, 2001 to March, 2004 and as per these norms, income tax liability shall be computed station wise after allowing benefits etc., as per provisions of Income Tax Act to the respective stations. However, CERC vide its subsequent orders have extended upto 30.09.2003 the pattern of billing charges prior to 31.03.2001 subject to retrospective adjustment on the determination of tariff by CERC with effect from 1.04.2001. NTPC has been billing Income Tax etc., accordingly as per the directions of CERC.

Setting up of water treatment plants

†1887. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to promote the setting up of water treatment plants so as to improve the quality of potable water in the country;

(b) if so, what are the outlines of that scheme;

(c) which are the States of the country where this scheme has been implemented so far; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the total number of water treatment plants in the country as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL): (a) to (d) The water treatment plants are meant to improve the raw water quality to the drinking water standards. The methods of treatment depend on the nature of source and its water quality. For subsurface, under ground source generally in situ chlorination will be sufficient. For surface sources like (river, lake, reservoir etc.) conventional treatment units consisting of areation, prechlorination (optional), sedimentation either plain or with coagulation and filteration and post chorination processes are used. These conventional treatment plants are parts of the water supply schemes implemented in the country. For the quality problems such as excess fluoride, excess brackishness/salinity, excess iron, the problems are solved either through the provision of water supply through alternate sources or through Non-conventional/Special treatment plants provided for this purpose. Drinking water, being a State subject, and the State Governments implement all rural drinking water supply schemes, the details on number of water treatment plants are not maintained in the Government of India.

Details of water treatment plants approved/installed/working are as follows:

	Approved	Installed	Working
Iron Removal Plants	16,386	9524	4494
Desalination Plants	194	150	77
Defluoridation Plants			
(i) F&D*	448	283	195
(ii) HPA**	397	349	38

*F&D: Fill and Draw

**HPA: Hand Pump Attachment